(c) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF HOMEAFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) The upgradation in weapons holding of the terrorists has enhanced their striking capabilities both in J&K and North-Eastern region.

(b) and (c) Upgradation of weaponry of the paramilitary forces is an ongoing process and the forces are being provided with appropriate weapons in order to ensure that they are in a position to effectively deal with die emerging security scenario. In me recent past a number of modern and sophisticated weaponry and equipments have been introduced in the CPMFs. However, in order to provide a time perspective to Government's efforts and to cope with the challenge of increased militant and terrorist activities, the CPMFs have formulated perspective plans for modernisation of weaponry and equipments which after due examination are proposed to be implemented in phases over the next five years commencing 2000-2001.

Besides modernising CPMFs, it has been the constant endeavour of the Government to modernise the weaponry of State Police forces so that they can face the present day challenge. Due to this effort, it has been possible to equip a significant section of the State Police forces with sophisticated weapons.

Foreign Militants in J&K

5534. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whemer Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item as appearing in the "Hindu" dated the 3rd April, 2000 captioned increasing presence of foreign militants in J&K; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to stop the infiltration of foreign militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF HOMEAFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b)Yes Sir, me Government is aware of the news item. Effort on the part of Pak sponsored terrorist outfits to induct foreign mercenaries from across the border into Jammu and Kashmir are continuing. As per the information made available by the Government of J&K, the number of foreign militants/mercenaries killed/arrested in the State' during 1999 and current year are as below:

	1999	2000 (upto April, 2000)
No. killed No. arrested	305 6	69 4

With a view to deal with the cross border activities the Government has adopted a multi-pronged approach which includes, *inter-alia,* strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of the militants by proactive action against them in the hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, greater functional framework of Operations Groups and Intelligence Groups of the UHQ at all levels, improved technology, weapons and equipments for Security Forces, closer vigil on the border, establishment of more naka parties in depth areas to check inHltration/exfiltration, more pickets, intensive patrolling and extensive cordon and search operations.

Changes suggested by the Law Commission in IPC

5535. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission has recommended sweeping changes in sections 375, 376, 376A and 376D of the IPC;

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) whether the Commission has also recommended higher punishment for an offence under section 509 of IPC; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE I MINISTRY OF HOMEAFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) The Law Commission of India in its 172nd Report on Review of Rape Laws has recommended, inter alia, changes in sections 375,376 and 376A to 376D of the Indian-Penal Code, 1860. The Law Commission has also recommended higher punishment for the offence under section 509 of the Indian Penal Code, I860. The recommendations of the Law Commission would be examined in consultation with die State Governments as "Criminal Law" is on die Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.